



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 355**

February Session, 2016

Substitute House Bill No. 5455

*House of Representatives, March 31, 2016*

The Committee on Public Health reported through REP. RITTER of the 1st Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

## **AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE ON PATIENTS' MEDICAL RECORDS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1       Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force  
2       to study patients' medical records. Such study shall include, but need  
3       not be limited to, an examination of (1) the time frame for a health care  
4       provider or health care institution to respond to a request for medical  
5       records, (2) the cost for research and copies in response to a request for  
6       medical records, and (3) the requirements of 45 CFR 164.524  
7       concerning individuals' access to their protected health information.

8       (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

9       (1) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,  
10      who shall be a representative of a business that provides health  
11      information management services;

12      (2) One appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, who

- 13 shall be a representative of the Connecticut Trial Lawyers Association;
- 14 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of  
15 Representatives;
- 16 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, who shall be  
17 a patient advocate;
- 18 (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of  
19 Representatives, who shall be a representative of the Connecticut  
20 Medical Society;
- 21 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, who shall be  
22 a representative of the Connecticut Hospital Association; and
- 23 (7) The chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing  
24 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
25 relating to public health, or their designees.
- 26 (c) Any member of the task force appointed under subdivision (1),  
27 (2), (3), (4), (5) or (7) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member  
28 of the General Assembly.
- 29 (d) All appointments to the task force shall be made not later than  
30 thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be  
31 filled by the appointing authority.
- 32 (e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president  
33 pro tempore of the Senate shall select the chairperson of the task force  
34 from among the members of the task force. Such chairperson shall  
35 schedule the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not  
36 later than sixty days after the effective date of this section.
- 37 (f) Not later than January 1, 2017, the task force shall submit a report  
38 on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee  
39 of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to  
40 public health, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the  
41 general statutes. The task force shall terminate on the date that it

- 42 submits such report or January 1, 2017, whichever is later.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:
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Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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**PH**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

**OFA Fiscal Note****State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 17 \$
Various State Agencies	GF - Potential Cost	Less than \$1,000

Note: GF=General Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

There may be a cost of less than \$1,000 in FY 17 to those agencies participating in the task force to reimburse legislators and agency staff for mileage expenses.

**The Out Years**

There is no ongoing fiscal impact because the task force terminates in FY 17.

**OLR Bill Analysis**

**sHB 5455**

***AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE ON PATIENTS' MEDICAL RECORDS.***

**SUMMARY:**

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 27 Nay 0 (03/16/2016)